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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/590,639

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EXAMINER

PETERSON, CHRISTOPHER K

ART UNIT

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2622

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/590,639	Applicant(s) HAUBMANN, MICHAEL B.	
	Examiner CHRISTOPHER K. PETERSON	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 12-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 August 2008 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 8/23/2006 and 7/13/2009 were filed with or after the mailing date of the application on 8/23/2006. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 12 - 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 12 recites the limitation "a device" in line 1 and "a device" in line 2. If the device in line 2 is the same as the device in line 1, then "a device" in line 2 should read "the device". If the "a device" in line 1 and "a device" in line 2 are different devices then claim should differentiate between the two devices. Examiner will analyze the claim to mean "the device" in line 2.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

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4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 12 - 17, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mabuchi (US Patent # 5,257,058).

As to claim 12, Mabuchi (Fig. 2) teaches a device (conversion adapter 201) for connecting a camera lens (interchangeable lens for a still camera (hereinafter simply called lens) 101) to a movie camera (video camera body 301) that has a camera housing (body) with a lens mount (unrepresented mount) and a device (201) for acquiring data (adapter microcomputer 202) relating to the camera lens (101) connected to the lens mount (unrepresented mount), further comprising a miniaturized electronic system (202) with data memory for storing data relating to the camera lens (101) and with a contact region (communication line 501 and 601) that is arranged on a data interface between the lens mount of the movie camera (301) and a lens fastening means of the camera lens (101) and which is aligned with the contact region (communication line 501 and 601) arranged in the lens mount of the movie camera (301) and which is integrated in the lens fastening means of the camera lens (101) or in a modified lens fastening means (201) connected to the lens fastening means of the camera lens (101) (Col. 3, line 65 - Col. 4, line 25). Mabuchi teaches the conversion adapter 201, there is provided an adapter microcomputer 202 for controlling the entire adapter and converting the control information, transmitted from the camera body

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through the communication line 601a, into a data format of the lens side, for supply to the lens through the communication line 501a (Col. 6, lines 3 - 18). Examiner analyzes this to mean the adapter microcomputer 202 has memory contained in it. It is well known in the art and inherent that a microcomputer will not function unless programmed and the program must be stored in memory. Examiner therefore believes the microcomputer comprises a memory.

As to claim 13, Mabuchi teaches wherein the miniaturized electronic system (202) is arranged in an intermediate flange (201) that is connected to the camera lens (101) and to the lens mount of the movie camera (301) (Col. 3, line 65 - Col. 4, line 25).

As to claim 14, Mabuchi teaches wherein the miniaturized electronic system (201) comprises a standardized electric interface (communication line 501 and 601) and is designed as a circuit foil (contacts) that is fitted on the lens fastening means of the camera lens (101) such that the contact region (501), arranged on the standardized electric interface, of the miniaturized electronic system (201) is aligned with the contact region arranged in the lens mount of the movie camera (301) (Col. 3, line 65 - Col. 4, line 25). Mabuchi teaches the conversion adapter 201 is mechanically and electrically connected to the lens and camera body.

As to claim 15, Mabuchi teaches wherein the miniaturized electronic system (201) includes a power supply device (external battery 401) and/or a voltage buffer (Col. 6, lines 19 - 25).

As to claim 16, Mabuchi teaches further comprising at least one position sensor (focus encoder 110, a zoom encoder 111 and a diaphragm encoder 112), that can be

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connected to the camera lens (101) for detecting lens settings such as zoom, focus or iris, and for outputting position signals to a control system (109) for camera lenses (101) (Col. 4, lines 53 - 59).

As to claim 17, Mabuchi teaches further comprising at least one adjusting device (driving units 106, 107, 108), that can be connected to the camera lens for motorized (motors) adjustment of zoom, focus or iris settings of the camera lens (101) as a function of desired values that are output by the control system (109) for camera lenses (101) Col. 4, lines 42 - 52).

As to claim 19, Mabuchi teaches wherein the miniaturized electronic system (201) includes a processor (202) for processing the data relating to the camera lens (101) and to the position signals (110, 111, and 112) and/or the desired values output by the control system (109) for camera lenses (101) (Col. 4, lines 5 - 16).

As to claim 20, this claim differs from claim 14 only in that the claim 14 depends on claim 12 whereas claims 20 depends on claim 13 above. Thus claim 20 is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claim 14 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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7. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mabuchi (US Patent # 5,257,058) as applied to claim 16 above, and further in view of Ushiro (US Patent # 4,404,595).

As to claim 18, note the discussion above in regards to claim 16. Mabuchi does not teach position sensor and/or the adjusting device comprise drive units that can be pivoted on lens rings of the camera lens. Ushiro teaches a gear portion (4a) formed in a portion of the focusing ring 4 and a gear portion (6a) formed in a portion of the zooming ring 6. A focusing motor 16 and zooming motor (22) drive a drive gear 17 and 18 (focus) and 23 (zoom) which turn the gear portions (4a or 6a) (Col. 6, line 65 - Col. 4, line 18 and Col. 4, lines 35 - 46). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided a gear portion as taught by Ushiro to focus and zoom driving unit of Mabuchi, to provide a more advantageous construction of a more useful lens unit the utilization of which, as a lens unit for contriving the automation of various operations in a video camera, will liberate the user at least from cumbersome manual operations such as the focusing of the image pickup lens and the adjustment of the diaphragm device and accordingly can greatly contribute to the automation in the video camera (Col. 1, lines 40 - 48 of Ushiro).

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Gelbard (US Patent Pub. # 2002/0130963 and US Patent # 6,930,721) cites a lens mount apparatus for a high definition video camera.

Fujiwara (US Patent # 6,999,125) cites an image pickup apparatus.

Ushiro (US Patent # 6,742,943) cites an image device.

Hirasawa (US Patent # 6097511) cites a video camera with interruption of recording upon detection of improper mounting of interchangeable lens.

Takagi (US Patent # 4,627,699) cites an automatic focusing adaptor for camera lens.

Miyasaka (US Patent Pub. # 2004/0202464) cites an interchangeable lens type camera system.

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHRISTOPHER K. PETERSON whose telephone number is (571)270-1704. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 6:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on (571)272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/C. K. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2622
1/12/2011

/Sinh Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2622